Sanitized Copy Approv	ved for Release 2010/08/02	: CIA-RDP85	5T01058R000202	880001-6

DATE 11/26/85

DOC NO EVEM 85-10094

ocr cys 3

P&PD CY____

State Dept. review completed

Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2010/08/02 : CIA-RDP85T01058R000202880001-6

	25X1
	25X1 EURA/WE/CM, 14 May 1985
	With the administrative elections behind them, Italian politicians are now turning their attention to the presidential election. Balloting to choose President Pertini's successor is not expected to begin before 23 June, and it may be a few weeks yet before the maneuvering gets seriously underway.
	The public has no direct say in this contest. The Italian President is elected by a special electoral college consisting of nearly 1000 members. (Both houses of parliament along with three representatives from nineteen of the country's 20 regions and one representative from the smallest region, Valle d'Aosta.) A candidate needs a three-quarters majority to win during the first three ballots; thereafter, an absolute majority suffices. Because it is virtually impossible for any candidate to win three-quarters of the vote, the election usually requires multiple ballots that more often than not lead to compromise candidates and surprise results.
	The presidency has been primarily a ceremonial post throughout most of the Republic's forty years, but President Pertini has demonstrated clearly that the job is an important reservoir of potential power. For example, through his rulings on whether to proceed with early national elections and his choices of Prime Ministers Pertini has exerted a strong influence on the direction of Italian politics.
1 1 < 1	Pertini is eligible to seek a second term 25 26 27 28 28 29 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20
1	·
	EUR M85-10094
	. 29

Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2010/08/02 : CIA-RDP85T01058R000202880001-6					
		25X1			
performance in last we encourage the five par popular moderate candi Craxi reportedly have parliamentary delegati	the governing coalition's streek's administrative elections ties of the coalition to coal idate like Forlani. Rumors of angered some members of both ons, however, and it is not contact to a rally enough support from w	is likely to esce behind a the deal with parties' lear that			
forward Communist Lowe stalking horse, howeve leaders have told US o practically guaranteei first three rounds. I Forlani, the Communist	he Communists have stated pub Pertini. We suspect that th r Chamber President Nilde Jot r, if Pertini does not run. fficials that they oppose For ng that he can not be elected f the governing coalition is s' numerical strength among t xert a strong influence on th	ey will put ti as a Communist lani, during the divided over he electors			
compromise candidate: Democratic President of former Christian Democratic Scalfaro, Christian Dem	minent personalities are in to any of the following could en Leopoldo Elia, a former Chris f the Constitutional Court, To ratic President of the Senate Mocratic Minister of the Interpolation	merge as a stian ina Anselmi, a : Oscar 25X1			
Foreign Minister Andred	aspirants for the office, income as former Senate President otti, may throw their hats in it, are tainted by scandal and pround in their parties in recommendations.	Fanfani and			